

## Veterans Outreach Project Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2011

### Attendees

Dan Bernhardt	Program Manager	Veterans Employment
Tina Whiting	Veterans Intensive Services Coordinator	MT DLI WSD JSOB
Joe Foster	Administrator	MT Veterans Affairs
Scott Smith	DOMS – MTNG	DMAMT
Brenda York	Director	Montana State University
Byron Erickson	DVET	DOL/VETS
Jovita Martinez	VPS	DOL/VETS
Michelle Hauer	Advocacy Coordinator	Montana Legal Services Association
Jim Auer	Grants Coordinator	Governor's OCS
Jan Lombardi	Executive Director	Governor's OCS
Amy Busch	State Program Specialist	Corporation for National and Community Service
Bruce Brensdal	Administrator	Housing
Jack Bailey	Director, Veterans Education and Training	Office of Public Instruction
Bernie Jacobs	Chief Counsel	DPHHS - Helena

### Minutes

Agenda	Discussion	Action Items
<b>3:00 Introduction</b>	Jan Lombardi – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose of this meeting               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow up to Rural Veterans Outreach Project meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>3:10 Veterans Service Updates</b>	Bruce Brensdal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programs focus on housing and homeless veterans</li> <li>Holistic approach looking at veterans other needs: addiction, mental illness, etc.</li> <li>New program using coal trust funds will help veterans with purchasing a home               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No income/price limits</li> <li>Credit must qualify</li> <li>Includes homebuyer education</li> </ul> </li> <li>Other veterans mortgage assistance programs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited availability to rural vets</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Bernie Jacobs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee veterans retirement homes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locations: Butte, Glendive, Columbia Falls</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Jack Bailey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping vets take advantage of the GI bill</li> <li>Approving facilities as recipients of GI bill</li> <li>Outreach through job fairs, public service announcements, and transition assistance progs.</li> </ul> Scott Smith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>650 soldiers returning to Montana in September</li> </ul>	<b>Scott Smith and Tina Whiting</b> – Development of release for to allow newly arriving vets to be contacted  <b>Byron Erickson, Michelle Hauer, Jack Bailey, DLI staff</b> – Combining resources for development of tribal resources guide  <b>Amy Busch –</b> Check if AmeriCorps VISTA can be involved in tribal resource guide development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arriving in Washington</li> <li>• Several agencies sending representatives</li> </ul> <p>Tina Whiting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing release form that would allow new vets to be contacted through this program</li> </ul> <p>Byron Erickson - Tribal Leaders Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collected materials for a tribal Vets resource guide</li> <li>• Summit included multiple agencies</li> <li>• Covered education, training, health benefits, legal agencies, HUD rep from Colorado, DLI tribal liaisons</li> </ul> <p>Michelle Hauer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working to expand organizational knowledge of veterans programs in tribal areas to better serve clients</li> </ul> <p>Jim Auer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compiled list of VFWs, ALs, education liaisons, and other VSOs</li> <li>• Information continues to be posted on website</li> </ul>	
<b>3:40 Pilot Project Status</b>	<p>Dan Bernhardt – Veterans Contact Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talked with Washington State about data sharing agreement               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wa. had agreement in place prior to program launch</li> <li>○ Wa. had funds and staff available for phone calls</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Moving forward with proposal to use MWorks data to be delivered to legal</li> </ul> <p>Jan Lombardi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wa. State implemented MOU's for agencies involved in the project to allow information sharing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dan Bernhardt, Jim Auer, Jan Lombardi, Amy Busch –</b> Assembling proposal for DLI legal</p> <p><b>Scott Smith –</b> MOU between National Guard and Department of Labor</p>
<b>4:00 Meeting adjournment</b>		